

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sheri McKendrick, City Recorder, 963-3203

"Be Heard, Vote!" Voter Outreach Campaign Helps Increase Voter Turnout in West Valley City

WEST VALLEY CITY – Voters in West Valley City turned out in increasing numbers during the 2007 Primary Election. In the At-Large primary election, 3,106 ballots were cast, representing a 23 percent increase in the number of voters compared to the 2005 At-Large primary. However, those residents who voted make up about 7 percent of the approximate 43,000 registered voters in West Valley City.

"We are pleased to see an increase in the number of voters," commented City Recorder Sheri McKendrick. "Voting on the municipal level truly does make a difference in the community and 7 percent is still a bit pathetic for a city of our size."

West Valley City has seen an increase in voter turnout since starting a voter outreach campaign during the 2005 elections which saw 5.66 percent of registered voters casting ballots. In the 2005 primary election, 2,518 residents cast ballots, up from 2,181 voters in the 2003 primary.

The current campaign "Be Heard, Vote!" provides information to the public regarding how to register to vote, where to vote and offers candidate contact information via brochures available at City Hall, the Family Fitness Center and the Utah Cultural Celebration Center. Also, the Salt Lake County Clerk's Office mailed postcards to registered voters as a reminder to vote.

In an effort to boost residents interaction with candidates, the City Recorder's Office will host a second Meet the Candidates Night on October 30 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cultural Center (1355 W. 3100 S.). Candidates will be asked randomly selected questions, submitted by residents prior to and during the forum.

Questions for the forum can be submitted to ojackson@wvc-ut.gov.

For more information, please call the City Recorder's Office at 963-3203 or 963-3207.